# CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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Anna Neagle, Anton Walbrook, and C. Aubrey Smith, with the model of London's Crystal Palace, which Miss Neagle has just presented to the New York World's Fair. The scene is from the Herbert Wilcox - RKO Radio picture, "Sixty Glorious Years".

A youthful village belle presents Merle Oberon with a seçond bridal bouquet, as she leaves the church after her marriage to David Niven, in Samuel Goldwyn's screen version of the Emily Bronte story, "Wuthering Heights". Laurence Olivier is also starred.

Three heads are better than one, say Tyrone Power, Alice Faye and Al Jolson, who are co-starring in Darryl F. Zanuck's latest musical for 20th Century-Fox, "Rose of Washington Square".

Two "Pugs With Ugly Mugs" are these two members of the dread Gestapo, the Nazi secret police, as pictured in Warner Brothers' startling production, "Confessions of a Nazi Spy".


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259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

"oh, by the way"

**"Hello Mr. Exhibitor"**

"GOODBYE MR. CHIPS" opens at the Astor, N. Y. on May 16th launching this most talked about attraction in the same showmanship manner which gave nationwide fame to "Pygmalion" (*still S.R.O. as it concludes a sensational 6-month run at the Astor.*)

While the fame of "GOODBYE MR. CHIPS" (*Robert Donat, Greer Garson*) spreads throughout the nation, M-G-M exhibitors will say hello to hit after hit. For instance:

Hold-overs are mounting as the "HARDYS RIDE HIGH"! "LUCKY NIGHT" (*Myrna Loy, Robert Taylor*) starts off with happy-go-lucky crowds everywhere. "IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD" (*Claudette Colbert, James Stewart*) rolled preview audience in the aisles. It's socko at the b. o.! "CALLING DR. KILDARE" (*Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore*) thrills opening engagements and establishes Dr. Kildare as another Hardy series. And that's just a few in coming weeks!

**Goodbye Mr. Exhibitor, you're in the chips as usual with Mr. Leo.**

# "Nevsky" Film Is Anti-German Story

# Is Press Critic Free To Restrain Trade

## Ray Presents

HOW much liberty has a newspaper in the matter of free speech in a country which functions as a Democracy? This question particularly presented itself to me when I read Roly Young's review of "Alexander Nevsky", the Cosmopolitan release, directed by Eisenstein, responsible for another world-famous picture called, "Potemkin", which also came in for praise and blame according to the politics of the reviewers' publications, and the critics' ability to discern artistic values.

*I wonder, if in the capacity of a reviewer, a critic has the right in the exercise of his critical license to attempt to keep exhibitors from buying a picture, and patrons from seeing it.*

*Roly Young's 'Rambling With Roly' column in the Globe-Mail, never presented a stronger argument for keeping business away from any firm, than in the "Alexander Nevsky" review of recent date, in which he states that those patrons who buy a ticket to a theatre at which "Alexander Nevsky" is being shown, are contributing money to the support of the Soviet government.*

*The picture was shown at the Hollywood Theatre, Toronto, which has a patronage interested in unusual films. The Saturday morning attendance of French pictures has always been packed at this theatre. In various spots throughout Toronto pictures produced in foreign countries outside of the U.S. are frequently shown, and these get excellent attendance. The same condition prevails at New York City, and other large centres of the United States. The same thing happens at London where there are many theatres showing foreign films, and even at this very time pictures made in Germany.*

THIS Dominion does business with Russia; and this Dominion at this very critical time is particularly interested in seeing an alliance for the "Stop Hitler" program include Russia on the side of England, France, Poland, etc. I saw "Alexander Nevsky" and enjoyed it. Its director knows dramatic values. The players were particularly good; as for the story, it travelled back to the early thirteenth century when Russia successfully defeated a German invasion. It was full of anti-German propaganda, I'll admit, but does this not suit British and American politics, and the spirit of freedom-loving people?

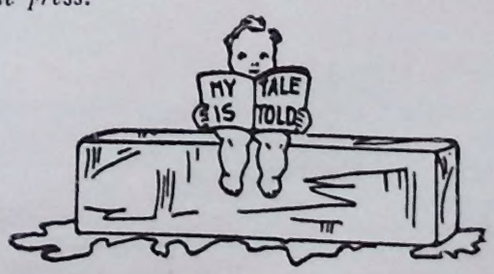
*The censors passed it; and I do not think that in these trying days that the Censor Board would pass any picture which it considered damaging to Canada, or the British Empire.*

*The Cosmopolitan company is an independent enterprise, and neither Roly Young, nor I, nor anyone else can prove that it gets financial support from the Soviet Government, or that the money from Russian-made pictures goes back to the Soviet Government; and aside from this angle, haven't we enough trouble as it is, without stirring up more with those to whom we are reaching out to be our friends?*

*We would all feel much happier and safer with an Anglo-Russian tie-up, and anything we can do to attain that objective is a desirable gesture.*

IF "Alexander Nevsky" had presented a story detrimental to Democratic Ideals, to the British Government, to the United States, to France, it would have been definitely against our interests to give such a story distribution, but "Alexander Nevsky" presents an attack on the common enemy of Democracy, Hitlerism, therefore, we who hate Nazism are all for it.

*On the screen one makes a distinction between propaganda and propaganda; when it is for us, it is Entertainment and good work for Democracy, when it is against us, it is foreign propaganda and should be stopped. Let's be frank and honest about our intent and reactions. Other nations are using their screens to educate the people to their ideas; we too must arm the screen for our defence. Nevertheless, I am still wondering if a review like Roly Young's, in which he tells exhibitors not to buy "Alexander Nevsky", and also tells the public that going to that picture is treason to our country, might not be overstepping the boundary of the freedom of the press.*




## New York World's Fair Proving Murderous To Broadway Grosses

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### VETERAN EXHIBITOR DIES

Winnipeg, Man. — Daniel A. McRae, 71, owner and operator of the Columbia moving picture theatre on Main Street, Winnipeg, since 1920, died April 28. He was a hotel owner, for a lengthy period and had lived in Winnipeg 47 years. He was born in Inverburn, Ontario.

### INSTAL NEW SOUND

Regina, Sask. — Sound equipment of the Capitol, Regina, was changed recently without the loss of a single performance. Old equipment was removed and new R.C.A. sound installed on a single Sunday by Bill Graham, local representative of Dominion Sound.

### SAINT JOHN VISITORS

Saint John, N.B. — Exhibitors who have been seen in Film Row recently have been T. J. O'Rourke, Gaiety, Minto, N.B.; Joe Rearden of the Strand, Black's Harbor, N.B.; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent McLaughlin of the Opera House, Newcastle, N.B.; Charles Staples, Queen Theatre, St. Stephen, N.B.; Colin Danson, Strand Theatre, Sussex, N.B.; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. King of the Magnet Theatre, Shelburne, N.S., and Joe Le Blanc of the Capitol Theatre, Shediac, N.B.

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# Set Up Conciliation Board In N.S. To Settle Film Differences

## SPONSOR OF N.S. FILM BILL APPLAUDS CONCILIATION

Halifax, N.S.—Decision to set up a Board of Conciliation was arrived at in Halifax, following a meeting of men prominent in the Film Industry in an all day session. It was stated that difficulties which have faced exhibitors and distributors have been solved by means of such Boards which have been functioning in Toronto, Vancouver and other Canadian cities. These Conciliation Boards are a means of self-regulation in the Industry.

Members of the newly appointed Board for Nova Scotia are: A. J. Mason, Springhill, N.S., President of the Nova Scotia Exhibitors Association, Chairman; Larry M. Graburn, Manager of the Capitol Theatre, Halifax, Secretary; Independent exhibitors, Frank Sobey, Stellarton, Fred Gregor, Sydney Mines, E. R. Lynn, Sydney; alternate, W. H. Cuzner, Sydney Mines.

Representatives of the Distributors, A. E. Smith, Saint John, Regal Films Limited, R. H. March, Saint John, 20th Century-Fox Film Corp.; alternate, P. J. Hogan, Saint John, Paramount Film Service Ltd.

Famous Players are to be represented by Larry Graburn; alternate, R. G. Macadam, Casino Theatre, Halifax. F. G. Spencer, Saint John, will represent his own circuit; alternate, A. A. Fielding, Saint John, General Manager, F. G. Spencer Co. Ltd.

Among those present at Halifax were Thomas J. Bragg, Secretary of the Famous Players Canadian Corp., Colonel John A. Cooper, President of the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada Ltd., James P. O'Loghlin, Canadian General Manager, 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., Leo M. Devaney, Canadian General Manager, RKO Distributing Corp. Ltd., and Wolfe Cohen, Canadian General Manager, Vitagraph, Inc.

Several conferences were held with a committee representing independent exhibitors and unaffiliated theatre operators of the Province of Nova Scotia. Three days' sessions gave ample opportunities for all sides to be heard, and difficulties presented and discussed.

In an interview published in the Halifax Chronicle, Malcolm A. Patterson, M.L.A. for Cape Breton West, stated, "I am satisfied that this Conciliation Board will prove the solution to all of our theatrical difficulties." Mr. Patterson told of the three days sessions held with General Manager from Toronto, representing producers and distributors, and a large number of independent exhibitors from various Nova Scotia centres.

The conference was called, he said, by distributors and exhibitors to discuss problems which had occurred in Nova Scotia regarding the running of several independent theatres.

On the recommendation of Mr. J. T. Bragg, it was unanimously approved by all present, that a Conciliation Board should be appointed to consist of eight men, four to be chosen from the independent exhibitors, two from among the producer-distributors, one from Famous Players Canadian Corp., and one from the Spencer Circuit.

Mr. Patterson stated that the meeting was on the whole a most successful one, in fact many difficulties were adjusted at the meetings, and the exhibitors expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied. "Nothing but words of praise were heard from all the operators for the way in which their representations were received by Mr. Bragg and his associates," Mr. Patterson is quoted as saying. "Personally," the Cape Breton member of the N.S. Legislature went on to say, "I was very much impressed with all the gentlemen concerned, and I am satisfied that this Conciliation Board will be the solution of our theatrical difficulties in this Province."

### HOLD KIWANIS NIGHT

Halifax, N.S. — The Annual Kiwanis Club Public Theatre Night was held at the Oxford Theatre, Halifax, Tuesday night. There were two shows in the evening, "Comet Over Broadway", featuring Kay Francis, being the picture attraction.

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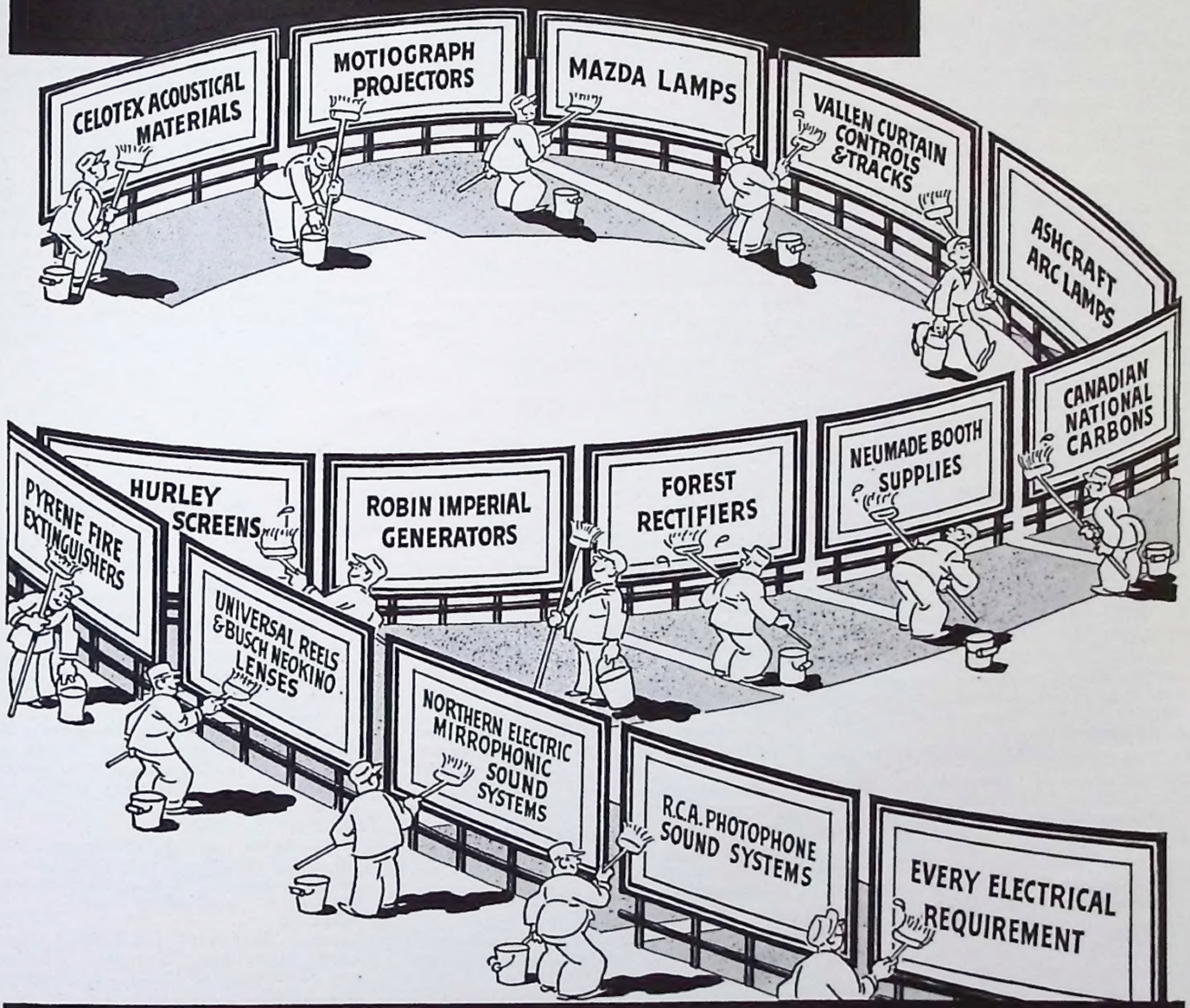
## Ontario Board Of Censors Will Not Okay Any Foreign Films, 16mm. Or Standard For The Present. Cause Stated To Be 16mm. Films Which Start Racial Riots In Small Towns

# Servicing "Show Business" with




## *Dominion Sound Equipments*

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# Shooting The Stars » » At The Studio

**Jean Hersholt,** distinguished character actor, has signed a long term contract with **RKO Radio** for three major productions a year; Hersholt will be starred in a screen continuation of the **'Dr. Christian'** radio plays in which he has appeared over the air; first picture under the deal will be entitled **"Meet Dr. Christian"** . . . this week **Columbia** assigned **John Brahm** to direct the first of the **Margaret Sidney Lathrop** series of best sellers, **"Five Little Peppers And How They Grew"; Edith Fellows** will be starred . . . **Edward G. Robinson** has signed with **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer** to star in **"Blackmail"**, dramatic story of a Southern chain gang . . . **"Hollywood Cavalcade"**, the Industry's first attempt at filming its own amazing history, will go into production at **20th Century-Fox** next week with a budget of **$2,000,000; Alice Faye** and **Don Ameche** will be co-starred, and **Mack Sennett** will act as associate producer and technical advisor; story is an original by **Lou Breslow** . . . **Walter Wanger** announced this week that he has signed **Loretta Young** as the first of three stars to head the cast of **"Whose Wife"**, first picture on the 1939-40 Wanger schedule; screenplay was written by **Gene Towne** and **Graham Baker** and release will be through **United Artists** . . . **Ray Enright** has been assigned to the direction of **"On Your Toes"**, film musical based on the Broadway stage hit of the same name; **Vera Zorina** and **Eddie Albert** will have the leads in the film version, which will be produced by **Warner Bros.** . . . production is nearing completion at **20th Century-Fox** of **"It Could Happen To You"**, hilarious comedy starring **Gloria Stuart** and **Stuart Erwin** . . . **Noah Beery, Jr.,** has been engaged by **Columbia** for a featured role in **"Parents on Trial"**, in which **Jean Parker** and **Johnny Downs** will have the leading roles . . . **May Robson** has been signed by **Herbert Wilcox** for an imoprtant role in the cinema story of the life of **Edith Cavell,** which he will film in Hollywood for **RKO Radio,** with **Anna Neagle** as Miss Cavell . . . **Robert Donat's** third film for **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer** British Studios will be entitled **"Ruined City"**, according to recent advices; the film will be based on the best-selling novel, **"Kindling"**, by **Neville Shute** . . . after an absence of several years, **Fred Stone,** veteran stage and screen favorite, is returning to motion pictures, and has signed with **Warner Bros.** to play the leading role in **"Not Wanted"**, which goes into production immediately with **Gloria Dickson, Dennis Morgan** and **Tommy Buff** featured . . . **David O. Selznick** has signed **William Wyler** to direct **"Intermezzo"**, his first 1939-40 production for **United Artists** release; **Leslie Howard** will star, and also act as associate producer.

**Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers giving their interpretation of one of the famous Castle dances, in RKO Radio's "Story of Vernon and Irene Castle".**

# Trans - Canada Showings

## TORONTO

HOLLYWOOD
"Jesse James" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Henry Fonda and Nancy Kelly, and "Paris Honeymoon" (Paramount), starring Bing Crosby, Franciska Gaal and Shirley Ross.

IMPERIAL
"East Side of Heaven" (Universal), starring Bing Crosby and Joan Blondell, and "Spirit of Culver" (Universal), starring Jackie Cooper and Freddie Bartholomew.

LOEW'S
"Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" (M-G-M), starring Mickey Rooney, and "Let Freedom Ring" (M-G-M), starring Nelson Eddy.

SHEA'S
"The Lady and the Mob" (Columbia), starring Fay Bainter. Also stage show.

UPTOWN
"Dark Victory" (Warners), starring Bette Davis, with George Brent.

## MONTREAL

CAPITOL
2nd week. "Dodge City" (Warners), starring Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland.

LOEW'S
2nd week. "The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle" (RKO Radio), starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

ORPHEUM
3rd week. "Wuthering Heights" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier and David Niven.

PALACE
"Dark Victory" (Warners), starring Bette Davis, with George Brent.

PRINCESS
"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (20th Century-Fox), with Richard Greene and Basil Rathbone, and "Winner Take All" (20th Century-Fox), with Tony Martin.

## SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"Made For Each Other" (Selznick-U.A.) starring Carole Lombard and James Stewart.

EMPIRE
"Quality Street" (RKO Radio), starring Katharine Hepburn and Franchot Tone, and "40 Naughty Girls" (RKO Radio), with James Gleason and Zazu Pitts.

MAYFAIR
"The Duke of West Point" (Edward Small-U.A.), starring Louis Hayward, and "Invisible Enemy" (Republic), with Alan Marshall.

REGENT
"What Price Innocence?" (Columbia), starring Jean Parker, and "Thanks for the Memory" (Paramount), with Bob Hope and Shirley Ross.

STRAND
"Son of Frankenstein" (Universal), starring Basil Rathbone, Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi.

## WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"Broadway Serenade" (M-G-M), starring Jeanette MacDonald with Lew Ayres.

GAIETY
"Angels With Dirty Faces" (Warners), starring James Cagney and Pat O'Brien, and "Swing That Cheer" (Universal), with Tom Brown and Constance Moore.

GARRICK
2nd week. "Wuthering Heights" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier and David Niven.

OSBORNE
"Club de Femmes" (G-N), starring Danielle, and "Small Town Boy" (G-N), starring Stuart Erwin.

FOX
"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (Disney-RKO Radio).

## CALGARY

CAPITOL
"The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle" (RKO Radio), starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

ISIS
"Paris Honeymoon" (Paramount), starring Bing Crosby, Shirley Ross and Franciska Gaal, and "In Old Chicago" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Alice Faye and Don Ameche.

PALACE
"Wings of the Navy" (Warners), starring George Brent, John Payne and Olivia de Havilland, and "Adventures of Jane Arden" (Warners), with Rosella Towne.

STRAND
"Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" (M-G-M), starring Mickey Rooney, and "Going Places" (Warners), starring Dick Powell and Anita Louise.

VARIETY
"Spring Madness" (M-G-M), starring Lew Ayres and Maureen O'Sullivan, and "Frontiers of '49" (Columbia), with Bill Elliott.

## VANCOUVER

BEACON
"Club de Femmes" (G-N), starring Danielle Darrieux. Also stage show.

BROADWAY
"Idiot's Delight" (M-G-M), starring Norma Shearer and Clark Gable, and "Secrets of a Nurse" (Universal), with Edmund Lowe and Helen Mack.

MUSIC BOX
"The Crowd Roars" (M-G-M), starring Robert Taylor and Maureen O'Sullivan, and "City Streets" (Columbia), with Edith Fellows and Leo Carrillo.

OLYMPIA
"The Sisters" (Warners), starring Errol Flynn and Bette Davis, and "Five of a Kind" (20th Century-Fox), starring the Dionne Quintuplets and Jean Hersholt.

PLAZA
"Wuthering Heights" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier and David Niven.